# Chicago Southwest Development Corporation Receives $2M Grant for Brownfield Cleanup

*President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Help Southwest Brownfield Lot*

**CHICAGO —** The EPA has awarded Chicago Southwest Development Corporation (CSDC) with a $2 million Brownfield grant. This grant will assist the in the cleanup of known contaminants on a piece of land previously occupied by the Washburne Trade School and will help with the development of the new Focal Point Community Campus.

The brownfield land operated as a factory until 1958 and contained a transformer building, machine shops, a freight warehouse, and several underground storage tanks, before later opening as a trade school. The cleanup plan will include removing and replacing contaminated soil with clean soil and installing engineered barriers to eliminate any potential exposure risks.

The Brownfield Cleanup grants are funded by $1.5 billion investment into brownfield sites from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to address legacy pollution, advance environmental justice, and create healthier communities.

"President Biden sees contaminated sites and blighted areas as an opportunity to invest in healthier, revitalized communities," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "That why he secured historic funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, supercharging EPA's Brownfields program to clean up contaminated properties in overburdened communities and bring them back into productive use."

The 10.8-acre site is located at West 31st Street and South Kedzie. That land will be home to the Focal Point Community Campus, a mixed-use community development anchored by a new Saint Anthony Hospital.

"We are grateful to receive this cleanup grant award from the EPA, as it provides us with critical funding to clean a contaminated brownfield site in our community and helps pave the way for the development of the Focal Point Community Campus and new Saint Anthony Hospital," said Chicago Southwest Development Corporation President and CEO Guy A. Medaglia. "The $2M grant, combined with two other cleanup grants (totaling $850,000) awarded from the US EPA, will help towards our estimated $7M cleanup of the full development site and will help prevent potential health concerns for families and children who experience poor air quality and higher rates of

respiratory illnesses and asthma, among other chronic illnesses. Thank you to the EPA for recognizing and supporting this important project."

Focal Point Community Campus is scheduled to open before 2030 and will be a first of its kind multi-use sustainable campus designed to provide access and opportunity for wellness, education, workforce development, living space and more.